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EVALUATION OF CONDITIONS IN THE FIELD  
OF CLINICAL VETERINARY MEDICINE

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Among the sciences grouped in the branches of veterinary medicine the clinical sciences are the most essential and fundamental; they are of particular importance for accomplishing the following:

1. Expansion of farm-animal production according to the Six-Year Plan.
2. Clinical evaluation of scientific and organizational achievements in ZSRR.
3. Adjustment of therapeutic and preventive veterinary procedures directed against the so called farm diseases to fit the special needs of socialized farm units, in particular, the needs of production cooperatives which have so successfully developed in the People's Republic of Poland.
4. Practical realization of needs and requirements of veterinary schools and state hospitals in accordance with the new teaching system organization.
5. Correction of previous and more recent faults and errors pertaining to the selection of timely problems as well as to organizational methods of coping with these extremely important national problems

in a more effective way, both theoretically and practically.

6. Creation of appropriate institutions and laboratories within as well as without school centers, and staffing such institutions with the ablest scientific workers in order to obtain the most effective solution of theoretical and practical problems, as well as to eradicate obsolete scientific and clinical methods, with proper consideration given to regional needs.

7. Encouraging a large number of veterinary clinicians to join the scientific research work, and training clinical scientists for future staffing.

The following steps will lead to the realization of the above-mentioned aims:

1. Constructing new or rebuilding all existing clinics in veterinary schools which should be furnished with modern equipment, proper instruments and apparatus, the present condition of clinics in all Polish veterinary schools is frightfully poor, unfit, provisional, or obsolete and marked by a tremendous shortage of modern clinical instruments and paraphernalia.

2. Rationally planned construction and distribution of State Veterinary Hospitals. This must not be entrusted to administrative authorities exclusively; veterinary teaching institutions should be granted partial control in this matter, as some selected clinics could be organized as branches of the Veterinary Faculty of the University. In such clinics, under the guidance of qualified professors, many problems of practical and scientific significance could receive proper attention; at the same time such clinics might become

training centers for students, graduates, and young physicians specializing in the clinical branch of veterinary science.

3. Closer cooperation of theoretical breeding sciences with breeding institutions and clinical centers, as this seems to be the only way of basing the development of Veterinary Hygiene on principles accepted in ZSRR. Separating the teaching of breeding theory from veterinary schools would, no doubt, result in lowering the scientific level of animal breeding sciences and the quantity of professional knowledge available to the veterinary practitioners; it would distort the course of development of veterinary clinical and breeding sciences by shifting the center of emphasis from prevention to treatment of animal diseases, thus hampering the fulfillment of a well-planned expansion of animal production -- a point of utmost importance in the Six-Year Plan.

4. Clinical teaching chairs in veterinary schools should be granted, when possible, to veterinarians specializing in research work; the assistant staff should be sufficiently increased to insure a continuity of scientific work and to provide training facilities for veterinary medical students.

5. The program of veterinary clinical studies must be uniform for all Polish teaching institutions to provide large-scale training of students of veterinary medicine.

6. Professional and scientific specialization should be encouraged. Such specialization exists only with regard to professors teaching ex cathedra or directing veterinary clinics. It is true that much specialization, as is the case with medical faculties, is

not necessary in veterinary clinical work. However, four specialties should be created:

- (a) Surgery, including orthopedics and veterinary ophthalmology;
- (b) Internal diseases, including parasitical diseases and epizootology of contagious diseases of bacterial and virus etiology;
- (c) Veterinary obstetrics, including congenital defects, diseases of young animals, and animal hygiene;
- (d) Testing of foods of animal origin.

Each of these specialists must have a good background of knowledge in animal breeding as well as in regional diseases.

7. All university centers and veterinary clinics should work together in their respective specialties with proper consideration given to mutual cooperation, for instance, specialists in internal medicine and obstetrics in cooperation with specialists on diseases of young animals and specialists on congenital defects; likewise animal hygiene specialists in cooperation with parasitologists, bacteriologists, and epidemiologists, and workers in all specialties, particularly those dealing with testing of foods of animal origin, should seek cooperation of pathological anatomists and practical pharmacologists through contact with state-supported Veterinary Clinics.

8. The selection of the executive staff as well as individual and teams of scientific workers should be entrusted to a council of

representatives of Veterinary Faculties with the cooperation of the interested departments of the respective ministries, and consideration should be given to the decision of the Ministry of Higher Education and Sciences.

The most essential veterinary needs which could be satisfied within the general framework of the Six-Year Plan by taking into consideration conditions expressed in paragraphs 1 to 8 can be divided into three cardinal types as follows:

TYPE I: Studies on the influence of environment on animal diseases; in this group the following problems must be given attention:

1. Modern clinical and laboratory diagnostics of contagious anemia in horses, brucellosis in swine and cattle. This is a large and most urgent field in which a working team of an internist, epidemiologist, and hygienist is highly recommended.

2. Diagnostics of traumatic inflammatory diseases of the gastrointestinal tract with a simultaneous study on creation of a modern clinical diagnostic system of the gastrointestinal tract diseases as the present system is certainly out of date. This problem is of importance because of the wide-spread practice of rumenotomy in spite of inadequate data on clinical diagnosis. This research should be carried out as team work, in cooperation with the Veterinary State Hospital.

3. Elaboration of a modern method of treatment of wounds, sterile and infected, based on the scientific achievements of Soviet

science and the recent, advanced views of Lepieszynska on cell biology, Boszjan on microbiology (bacteria and viruses); with adequate attention given to treatment and preventive dosage of antibiotics such as the sulfonamides and their derivatives, penicillin, etc.

At present, there are no definite data pertaining to indications for the use of antibiotics and their dosage. This problem should be studied jointly by clinicians, microbiologists, and pharmacologists; for the purpose of procuring adequate experimental material, the cooperation of practicing veterinarians on hospital staffs should be secured.

TYPE II: Investigation of new therapeutic methods that primarily utilize our domestic raw material resources, with consideration given to the achievements of Soviet science.

1. Shortage of domestic drugs, especially for farm animals, necessitates the use of imported medicines which are expensive and difficult to obtain; they contribute a great deal to the influence of foreign scientific concepts among our farmers and veterinarians.

The same is true with respect to the production of veterinary equipment.

Creative work in this direction should be undertaken by internists and pharmacologists in the drug field, by teams of surgeons and specialists in instrument manufacture in the field of medical equipment; the existing veterinary hospitals and clinics can be used for practical testing of our drugs and instruments.

TYPE III: Team work of veterinary scientists and domestic animal breeders with specialists in bacteriology, epidemiology, and animal hygiene for devising a practical method of fighting swine and cattle tuberculosis effectively and controlling lactation disturbances in cows (streptococci, udder inflammation of infectious etiology).

1. Present methods are inadequate for preventing the spread of the above-mentioned diseases that produce tremendous economic losses, and methods for preventing lactation disturbances do not exist at all.

2. This group includes also the problems of combating sterility in cattle and horses, diseases of young animals, regional and seasonal farm epidemics (with proper attention paid to intrinsic and extrinsic contributing factors), and the problem of finding (in cooperation with specialists in the field of parasitology) methods of combating parasitic diseases including eradication of parasites from areas particularly afflicted.

Constant contact with veterinary hospitals is particularly important for favorable results in any attempt to solve the problems embraced by this group.

3. All these types and groups of problems demand the active cooperation of pathological anatomy, as this branch of science is of utmost importance to the clinician in the diagnosis of disease and in evaluating the effectiveness of measures used for the treatment and prevention of disease.

It is acknowledged that work on these vital problems cannot be undertaken immediately on a large scale because of shortages mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 8, which will require some time to remedy (new buildings, installations, equipment, research staff, etc). Nevertheless, inauguration of this program, even under the unfavorable conditions that prevail at present, should be undertaken in our hospitals and clinics, for even a partial solution of these problems will insure a successful fulfillment of the Six-Year Plan. It is recommended, however, that the following step be taken in the immediate future: professors and their staff assistants in universities, as well as research workers not connected with teaching centers, should be relieved from the burden of extra work not directly connected with instruction, particularly with administrative duties which render impossible any meticulous scientific work on a larger scale, resulting in irreparable detriment to the progress of science and state.

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